

January 31, 2000

NATIONAL BIOTECHNOLOGY
MONTH

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the designation of January as "National Biotechnology Month."

Today, Americans are living longer and healthier lives, thanks in part to modern medicine. Death rates from heart disease, cancer, and stroke are going down, and hundreds of new medicines are being developed to combat diseases, including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and arthritis.

Biotechnology not only creates new medicines and treatments, but it also improves the livelihood of individuals and our community at large. More than 212,000 Californians are employed due to biomedical research and development, earning an average salary of \$64,000. They are developing products that generate more than \$4.2 billion in exports. In San Diego, the University of California at San Diego, Scripps Research Institute, and the Salk Institute lend their expertise to and participate in a biotechnology cluster of over 27,000 jobs. In addition, San Diego County is privileged to have hundreds of small start-up biotech companies producing innovative and life-saving drugs, biologics and devices.

Mr. Speaker, as a follow-up to a CALBIO Summit meeting in which Congressman BURR and I participated this past fall, I followed up with many of the biotechnology companies that are members of BIOCOM, San Diego. What I learned from these technology leaders is that Congress must work to assist these companies and enable them to produce these life-saving drugs and devices, while not hindering their growth and innovation.

For example, every company that I met with expressed their frustration with the lack of stability in securing reimbursement from the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA). Not only do these companies have to work their way through the FDA approval process, but after they toil for years and finally receive FDA approval, they then have to begin an often arduous fight with HCFA to receive adequate reimbursement for their products. Mr. Speaker, I have had companies in my district dissolve because they have lost the battle with HCFA, after receiving approval for their products from the FDA. We must address this serious issue and develop a solution to ensure that these companies do not become financially insolvent as a result of bureaucratic delay.

While this is a serious problem faced by the biotech industry, we must also praise their hard work and innovation, which improves all of our lives and the community at large. I commend the biotechnology industry and the many companies in California and San Diego that are producing innovative and life-saving drugs and devices. I urge my colleagues to lend their support and appreciation to this crucial and resourceful industry.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE TO DEACONESS ROSA
A. JENNINGS, LIFELONG DIS-
TRICT OF COLUMBIA RESIDENT,
JANUARY 26, 1914-JANUARY 26,
2000

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, Deaconess Rosa Jennings, affectionately referred to as "Rosie", was born in Freedman's Hospital, Washington, DC. She resided in the District of Columbia until her husband's death, in 1994. Rosa Jennings was the daughter of the late Wallace and Mary Toles. She committed her life to Christ in her early teens and she had been a member of the 12th Street Christian Church for her entire adult life. She loved her church and was willing to lend a helping hand. She was very active in the flower club, and the nursing unit. She also found time to sing in the Senior Choir, and ultimately became a faithful Deaconess.

Ms. Jennings was educated in the Washington, DC public school system, graduating from M Street High (Dunbar High School). She completed two years of higher education at Minor Teacher's College. She was a Federal service employee for over 36 years, retiring as a military personnel supervisor at the Pentagon. She received several letters and certificates of commendation and appreciation, during her Federal service.

Rosie was actively involved in volunteer community organizations, within the Washington, DC area, following her retirement from the Federal Government. As a longstanding resident of Washington, DC, she served as a volunteer worker at various voting poll locations, during every city-wide election. She loved caramel popcorn and looked forward to attending the Circus each year. She was a very quiet person in nature, but her presence was felt by all that knew her.

Peacefully, on Wednesday, January 26, 2000 (her birthday), she quietly obeyed God's call to enter his holy gates. She fought the battle, keeping the faith, and now is resting in peace. She was preceded in death by her husband William Jennings, her three siblings, Arthur Toles, Gladys King, Lois Akins, and a loving daughter, Theresa Curtis and her husband, Everett Curtis.

She leaves behind to mourn her loving daughter Sylvia B. Miller, and her husband, Vandy L. Miller; eight grandchildren—Kerwin Miller, Karen Saunders, Karmen Miller, William Jennings, Lois Williams, Joyce Middleton, Michelle Curtis and Everett Curtis, Jr.; five great grandchildren—Robyn Williams, Markia Burch, LaShawn White, Phillip Brooks and Vandy Brooks; a loving niece and nephew, Rosa Lee and Monty Denny; three grandsons-in-law—Russell Saunders, Gregory White and Bobby Williams; five sisters-in-law—Carrie Toles, Belle Jennings, Margaret Hargrove, Hazel Williams, Gwen Anderson; and a host of other relatives and friends.

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CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR A FREE
TIBET

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give my full support once again to the work of Chicago civil and human rights leader Reverend Ronald I. Schupp, who is embarking on his fourth annual peaceful twenty-four hour fast and vigil outside of the Chinese Consulate in Chicago. Reverend Schupp is calling upon the government of the People's Republic of China to grant independence to Tibet and its people.

His vigil will be held on March 10, the day that is known each year as Tibetan National Day. This day recognizes the ongoing efforts and continuing struggle of the Tibetan people to gain their freedom.

The fourteenth Dalai Lama, who in 1989 won the Nobel Peace Prize for his continuing efforts for a non-violent and peaceful solution to end the occupation of Tibet, is still laboring ceaselessly to accomplish this goal. I fully support Reverend Schupp and the vigil he is undertaking once again.

HONORING CHARLES H. GREEN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to remember the life of a man that will be missed by all those who knew him, Charles H. Green who passed away while visiting friends in Arkansas on November 24, 1999.

Mr. Green was born on September 29, 1933, in Kansas City, Missouri to Dorris Irwin and Henry Green. He was raised in Chicago and studied electrical engineering at DeVry Institute. Charles displayed loyalty to his country by serving in the United States Army for two years.

Mr. Green relocated to Glenwood Springs in 1972. He was the owner of Summit Heating and Sheet Metal, worked in real estate and then established Air Maintenance Company. Charles liked to travel across the country and in Canada and Mexico. Charles loved boating, hiking and was pursuing his lifelong dream of learning to fly.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I wish to remember Mr. Charles H. Green for being a loving and caring person that will be missed by all those who knew him.

HONORING ERIN BREEZE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Erin Breeze, one of my constituents from Nederland, Colorado who was